

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

DODE-00 EB-07 COME-00 FRB-03 NIC-01 /052 W

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R 241545Z MAR 75

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0804

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 5173

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1623

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ECON, NATO

SUBJ: ECONADS: PAPER ON STRATEGIC AND POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS OF
ECONOMIC SITUATION

REF: USNATO 1476

1. ECONADS MEETING MARCH 20 EXCHANGED VIEWS ON US PAPER ON
STRATEGIC AND POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS OF ECONOMIC SITUATION
(WP/127-WP423) AND COMMENTS SUBMITTED THUS FAR BY FRG AND UK.
ALL AGREED THAT WHILE DATA IN PAPER MAY NEED SOME UPDATING ON
BASIS MORE RECENT OECD ESTIMATES, NO DELEGATION HAS PRESENTED
ASSESSMENT SHARPLY AT VARIANCE WITH US VIEW. THEREFORE, ECONADS
SHOULD STRIVE TO PRODUCE PAPER FOR SUBMISSION TO SPC AS SOON
AS POSSIBLE. BRIEF DISCUSSION CENTERED ON COMMENTS IN FRG
CONTRIBUTION RELATING TO DANGERS OF "POLITICAL
RADICULIZATION" AND DESIRABILITY OF MEMBER COUNTRIES HARMONIZING
VIEWS AS ALLIES IN DISCUSSION OF ECONOMIC ISSUES IN OTHER FORA.

2. GREECE AND NETHERLANDS THOUGHT REFERENCE IN FRG COMMENTS TO
DANGERS OF "POLITICAL RADIALIZATION" AS RESULT OF ECONOMIC DIF-
FICULTIES INAPPROPRIATE. BELGIUM, CANADA, AND FRANCE, HOWEVER,
THOUGHT IDEAS RAISED BY FRG WERE IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS THAT
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WARRANT IN DEPTH DISCUSSION BY ALLIANCE. BELGIAN AND FRENCH REPS
SAID US PAPER EXCELLENT BUT LACKS SYMMETRY IN TREATMENT OF NATO
AND WARSAW PACT, ANALYSIS OF LATTER BEING MORE OF MEDIUM-TERM
FORECAST.

3. AT SUGGESTION OF CHAIRMAN, ECONOMIC COMMITTEE WILL MEET
THROUGHOUT WEEK BEGINNING MARCH 24 TO DRAFT REVISED STUDY
TAKING INTO ACCOUNT VIEWS OF FRG, UK, AND OTHER DELEGATIONS.
DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS ON THOSE COMMENTS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WOULD
BE USEFUL.BRUCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 18 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NATO01623
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750398/abbrziyg.tel
Line Count: 63
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: USNATO 1476
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <16 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ECONADS: PAPER ON STRATEGIC AND POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS OF ECONOMIC SITUATION
TAGS: PFOR, ECON, NATO
To: STATE INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS
OECD PARIS
EC BRUSSELS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006